

XX 11515

SECRET

POUCH 823

5 April, 1946

TO: SAINT, Rome
INFO: SAINT, Cairo; SAINT, Washington
FROM: SAINT, London
SUBJECT: DADONE, Ugo

REFERENCE: JXX-6226 of 20 February, 1946,
GSA-2295 of 31 January, 1946 and
JXX - 2004 of Filippo ZAMBONI

In reply to your JXX of 6226 of 20 February 1946
we are forwarding you the following M.I.5 traces on Ugo DADONE:

The following is a précis of the information we have
on this man, in addition to what you mention is already in your
possession.

Ugo DADONE arrived in Egypt in 1934 and set up a new
agency in Cairo where he worked up to the outbreak of war. This
agency was partly controlled by STEPAK.

His job was to keep Italy in the public eye, and in a
favourable light, and at the same time to keep his government fully
informed of the political and economic position in Egypt. He also
carried on his work by explaining Italian policy to people he met socially
and through his culture and charm acquired a large circle of friends in
cultural, social and official circles.

It is doubtful whether DADONE indulged in espionage which
was not part of his job, although at one time information pointed to
the fact that he was in touch with the Deutsch Nachrichten Büro.

When interrogated (interrogation report dated 16.12.43)
DADONE stated that his agency was only a semi official body. Until
September 1939 when orders were no longer received, he was given
guidance as to the general propaganda line he should take. These orders
came mainly from the Cairo Legation, but also from the Italian Foreign
Office, though not the Propaganda Ministerium.

DADONE makes no secret of the fact that he is confirmed
Fascist, and in his opinion democracy means disorder."

In addition, we note a card reference, apparently derived
from a list or primer source dated 14.5.43 which gives the following

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information on DABOUDI

"Formerly head of Italian Propaganda office in Cairo, and an important I.S. officer. Before the fall of Mussolini he was in command of the Arab camp in Rome which has now been taken over by the Germans."

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